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Lease of Ramnad coastal area for chank diving.

* 655 *Q.*—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Rajah of Ramnad continues to be in possession of the right to lease out the coastal area in his former estate, for the purpose of chank diving;

(*b*) what portion of the proceeds go to the Government; and

(*c*) what is the total amount collected in the year 1952-53 by leasing out for chank diving by the Rajah?

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) Since 7th September 1949 the Rajah of Ramnad is not in possession of the right to lease out the fishing rights of chanks in the coastal area of Ramnad.

" (*b*) The entire proceeds go to the Government.

" (*c*) A sum of Rs. 14,000, being the lease amount for the fasli year 1952–53, has been collected from the lessees by the Government."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" The question is not about fishing rights. It is about chank diving."

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" This is all about chank diving and it is called chank fisheries."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Even this year, it is the Raja of Ramnad that is leasing out rights for chank diving. Can the Government deny this fact? "

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" I do not think so, Sir."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" What exactly is meant by chank diving? Are there any other parties which enjoy such rights? "

The Hon. Dr. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Chank diving means diving into the sea for fishing chanks. (Laughter.) That is *Sanku* or *Sankam*. It is the monopoly of the State."

Supply of copies of Jail Administration Reports to foreign Embassies.

* 656 *Q.*—Sri T. POTHA RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have supplied copies of Jail Administration Reports to any foreign Embassies or Consulates; and

(*b*) if so, their names and the reasons for such action?

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) Yes.

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"(b) Only the American Consulate-General at Madras. The American Consulate-General, Madras, is supplied with a copy of the report with reference to a special request received from the Consulate for certain annual administration reports which are published and supplied to newspapers."

10-10 a.m. SRI T. POTHA RAJU :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Embassy in question asked for the following information also, namely, the total number of political prisoners, especially Leftists, Communists and others, the sphere of their activities and their political life? If it is a fact may I know whether the Government gave information on these to the American Embassy? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Sir, the report supplied was the same as that supplied to the hon. Member also. It is a general review of the Jail administration only."

(Many hon. Members stood up in their places.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" The next two questions are more or less similar to this. I will allow hon. Members to put supplementaries at the end of the last question."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister did not give an answer to the question put to him last. The question was specific. The hon. Member asked for particular information from the Hon. Minister whether the American Embassy asked for any specific information from the Hon. Minister or his department about certain Leftist prisoners inside the Jail and the sphere of their activities. The Hon. Minister could have said 'Yes' or 'No' to it. But let him not say that the information is in the report. The question was about the information asked by the American gentleman."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, we do not supply such information and they have never asked for such information. They are not entitled to ask us for such particulars."

Supply of Administration Report of Jails to the American Consul, Madras.

* 657 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state the reasons for sending officially a copy of Government Order No. 3405, Home, dated 22nd September 1952, forwarding Administration Report of Jails for 1951 to the American Consul, Madras, and also for making a special reference to the same in the Government Order itself?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Even from 1945, a copy of the Jail Administration Report is being supplied annually to the American Consul (now Consul-General), Madras, as he requested to be supplied with copies of Administration Reports which are not confidential and are published and sent to local newspapers. The request is